

MS#164031.1 (MSFT 4934)
PATENT**REMARKS**

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesy of a telephone interview on February 17, 2005. During the interview, Applicants' representative James J. Barta, Jr. discussed the patentability of the claims including claim 1 in view of the cited reference Urade et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,272,644) with Examiner Perveen. No agreement was reached, as the Examiner stated that another search would be necessary. No exhibit was shown and no demonstration was conducted. A Request for Continued Examination accompanies this Amendment B.

Applicants have thoroughly considered the Office action and have amended the application to more clearly set forth the invention. Claims 1-31 and 33-51 are presented in the application for further examination. Claim 32 has been canceled, while claim 51 has been added. Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-21, 23-26, 28-31, 34, 36, 43, 44, and 48-50 have been amended by this Amendment B. Reconsideration of the application as amended and in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested. No new matter has been added.

Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Urade et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,272,644 ("Urade patent"). During the interview, the Examiner acknowledged that the Urade patent does not teach independently or selectively suspending one or more devices connecting to a USB hub, while maintaining other devices connecting to the same USB hub in an active, idle, or suspended state.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6, 9-21, 23-26, 28-31, 34, 36, 43, 44, and 48-50 have been amended to more clearly reflect this acknowledgement. In particular, claim 1 recites "sending an idle request from at least one of the devices to the root hub when the at least one of the devices is ready to be suspended" and "executing the callback function to selectively suspend the at least one of the devices that sent the idle request while maintaining a state associated with each of the other devices."

Further, amended claim 25 recites "selectively suspending, by the USB hub controller in response to the received idle request, the device and any child devices thereof only after an idle request has been received from the device and each of the child devices thereof such that the device and any child devices thereof are suspended while a state associated with each of the

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other devices in the tree is maintained. New claim 51, depending from claim 25, recites that "the state associated with each of the other devices in the tree comprises an active state, an idle state, or a suspended state."

As such, applicants submit that amended independent claims 1, 25, 34, 43, and 48 are allowable over the cited art. The claims depending from these independent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the same reasons as the independent claims from which they depend.

It is felt that a full and complete response has been made to the Office action and, as such, places the application in condition for allowance. Such allowance is hereby respectfully requested. Although the prior art made of record and not relied upon may be considered pertinent to the disclosure, none of these references anticipates or makes obvious the recited invention. The fact that Applicants may not have specifically traversed any particular assertion by the Office should not be construed as indicating Applicants' agreement therewith.

The Applicants wish to expedite prosecution of this application. If the Examiner deems the claims as amended to not be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited and encouraged to telephone the undersigned to discuss making an Examiner's amendment to place the claims in condition for allowance.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or overpayment of any required fee during the entire pendency of this application to Deposit Account No. 19-1345.

Respectfully submitted,



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